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Diana T Fritz 05/24/2007 04:20:07 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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Text:

CONFIDENTIAL

SIPDIS  
TELEGRAM

May 07, 2003

To: No Action Addressee  
Action: Unknown  
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 2234 - PRIORITY)  
TAGS: PREL  
Captions: None  
Subject: AS REGIONAL POWER CENTER SHIFTS, UAE NO LONGER TAKING  
TUTELAGE FROM RIYADH  
Ref: None

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 02234

SIPDIS  
CXABU:  
ACTION: POL  
INFO: RSO AMB DCM P/M ECON

DISSEMINATION: POL  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB:MMWAHBA  
DRAFTED: POL:STWILLIAMS  
CLEARED: DCM:RAALBRIGHT

VZCZCADI408  
PP RUEHC RUEHEE RUEKJCS RHEHNSC RUEAIIA RHEFDIA  
RUCJACC  
DE RUEHAD #2234 1271344  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 071344Z MAY 03  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9848  
INFO RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//POLAD/CCJ2/CCJ5// PRIORITY  
RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//OSD/NESA//  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 002234

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP AND NEA/NGA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/07/13  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNSC](#) [GCC](#) [SA](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: AS REGIONAL POWER CENTER SHIFTS, UAE  
NO LONGER TAKING TUTELAGE FROM RIYADH

[1](#)1. (U) Classified by Ambassador Marcelle M. Wahba  
for reasons 1.5 (B) and (D).

[1](#)2. (C) During a May 7 meeting with the Ambassador,  
MFA Minstate Hamdan bin Zayid Al-Nahyan shared the  
substance of a spat he had with Saudi Crown Prince  
Abdullah. Apparently, Abdullah had told an Arab  
expat (well known in Gulf circles for his  
connections to GCC leaders) that he was extremely  
displeased that the Emiratis had decided to send a

representative to the April 28 Baghdad "tent meeting." Saudi Arabia had decided against such representation and believed that the smaller GCC states should have followed suit. An incensed Hamdan had asked the conduit to send the following back to Abdullah: "The UAE is a sovereign state which neither takes orders nor waits to see what direction others take before making decisions. The regional situation has changed and the Saudi leadership should not behave as it did 10 years ago."

13. (C) COMMENT: Anticipating a potential shift in the center of power from Riyadh to points northward, it appears that Abu Dhabi is already chafing at the Saudi suggestion that the Emiratis should continue to take their cues on policy decisions from their Saudi brothers. END COMMENT.

WAHBA